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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

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SECURITY INFORMATION

## **INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Rumania

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Living Conditions

DATE DISTR.

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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## 1. Prices

The following are prices of goods sold in Bucharest shops during May 1952:-

## a. State Shops

Oil	per kilo	3.80 lei	(with ration coupons)
Sugar	per kilo	3. lei	(with ration coupons)
Sugar	per kilo	9 to 9.30 lei when available	(without ration coupons)
Flour	per kilo	3.50 to 4. lei	(without ration coupons)
Maize flour	per kilo	2.70 lei	(without ration coupons)
Macaroni	per kilo	2.60 lei	(with ration coupons)
Macaroni	per kilo	6. lei	(without ration coupons)
Rice	per kilo	9. lei	(without ration coupons)
Cheese	per kilo	ll. lei	(without ration coupons)
Beans	per kilo	1.70 lei	(without ration coupons)
Potatoes	per kilo	0.70 leu	(without ration coupons)

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STATE	x	NAVY	x	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION					
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Fresh butter	per kilo	25. lei	(without ration coupons) Rationed by the shops to 200 grams per person.
Wine	per kilo	5.12 to 16. lei	(without ration coupons)
Brandy	per kilo	24. lei	(without ration coupons)
Creme de Menthe	per kilo	15. lei	(without ration coupons)
Ouzo (sic)	per kilo	22.to 24. lei	(without ration coupons)
Beer	per kilo	3. lei	(without ration coupons)
Dried onions	per kilo	0.90 leu	(without ration coupons)
Fresh onions	per bunch	0.20 leu	(without ration coupons)
Spinach	per kilo	0.75 to 1 lei	(without ration coupons)
Dried garlic	per kilo	2. lei	(without ration coupons)
Fresh garlic	per bunch	0.20 leu	(without ration coupons)
Albanian olives	per kilo	25. lei	(without ration coupons)
Suit	** =	370 to 900 lei	(with ration coupons)
Suit		700 to 2,000 lei	(without ration coupons)
Suiting material		50 to 120 lei per meter	(with ration coupons)
Suiting material		250 to 600 lei per meter	(without ration coupons)
Men's shoes		70 to 100 lei	(with ration coupons)
Men's shoes	0	150 to 350 lei	(without ration coupons)
Beef	per kilo	4.80 lei	(with ration coupons)
Beef	per kilo	8. lei	(without ration coupons)
Pork	per kilo	8. lei	(with ration coupons)
Pork	per kilo	12. lei	(without ration coupons)
Mutton	per kilo	6.70 lei	(This was obtainable at this price either with or with-out coupons).
Fish	per kilo	6 to 14, lei	(with ration coupons) Fish was in very short supply and when available long queues were formed outside the shops.
Paraffin	per kilo	0.50 leu	(with ration coupons)
Petrol	per kilo	3.50 lei	(without ration coupons)

- 3 -

Shoe repairs, rubber soles

60 to 80 lei

(without ration coupons)

Shoe repairs,

leather soles

30 to 40 lei

(with ration coupons)

Haircut

2 lei

Shave

1.25 lei

Haircut and shave

3. lei

Bar of toilet

soap

2.60 to 4 lei

Cinema ticket

1 to 2 lei

Theatre ticket

5 to 12 1ei

Lemons, oranges, currants and almonds are scarce.

#### b. Free Market

Oil

per kilo 22 to 25 lei

Flour

per kilo 3.50 to 4 lei

(as in state shops)

Cheese

per kilo 11 to 12 lei

Beans

per kilo /4 lei

per kilo

Potatoes

per kilo 2 to 2.50 lei

Pork fat

per kilo 20 to 28 lei

Beef Pork

per kilo 17 to 20 leî

Mutton

per kilo 12 to 13 lei

Petrol

per kilo 3.50 lei

(as in state shops)

Shoe repairs, rubber soles

2001 20100

60 to 80 lei

13 to 18 lei

(as in state shops)

Leather is rarely available on the free market.

The following commodities are not available:-

Sugar, macaroni, rice, wines and spirits, suiting material, shoes and paraffin.

## 2. Restaurants

4. Free restaurants have gradually closed down and it would appear that there are none operating in Bucharest.

50X1-HUM

- 4 -

- b. No ration coupons are required in restaurants. As many dishes, meat or otherwise, as required may be ordered and only the price stated in the menu is charged.
- c. The following are prices of dishes:-

Meat soup

2.50 to 2.80 lei

Meatless soup

1.50 to 1.60 lei

Meat dish

3.20 to 3.50 lei

Chops

3.80 to 4.50 lei

Dishes cooked in

oil

2. to 2.50 lei

Bread per portion

0.20 lei

Wine & kilo

2. lei

Beer - 300 grams

glass

l leu

Beer - 500 grams

glass

1.50 lei

Beer - 500 grams

bottle

2. lei

Fish dish

4. to 12. lei

Salads

1.50 to 2. lei

## 3. Wages - Salaries

#### a. Bucharest Area

Farm laborer

250 lei per month

Waiter

250 lei per month

Streetcar driver

600 - 700 lei per

month

Streetcar or bus

conductor

220 to 250 lei per

month

Clerk

250 to 350 lei per

month

Typist

350 to 400 lei per

month

Maid

10 to 15 lei per day

apart from board and

lodging.

#### b. <u>Braila</u>

(1) The following are wages and salaries payed by the Viitorul Shipyards, Braila:

50X1-HUM

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- 5 -

Apprentice

50 lei per month

(and theoretical and practical training)

Unskilled laborer

300 lei per month

Skilled laborer (without diploma)

300 to 400 lei per

month

Skilled laborer (with diploma)

500 to 1,100 lei per month

Foremen

600 to 1,400 lei

Chief engineer

2,100 lei per month

Administrative

1,450 lei per month

director

Shipbuilding engineer (with Polytechnic

diploma)

400 to 1,200 lei

per month

per month

Head of a administrative department

900 lei per month

Assistant

605 lei per month

Chief of production

1,400 lei per month

Assistant

900 lei per month

Head of supply

1.050 lei per month

department Assistant

700 lei per month

Chief accountant

1,400 lei per month

Assistant

1,050 lei per month

Head of an accountancy

section

730 lei per month

Accountant

495 to 605 lei per

month

495 to 730 lei per

Accountants in supply department

month

Clerks in works and salaries department

505 to 1,050 lei per

month

Employees in planning

department

.600 to 1,400 lei per

month

Central paymaster

730 lei per month

Technical directors

2,100 to 2,130 lei per

month

50X1-HUM

- 6 -

Chief engineer technical service 1,400 lei per month

Assistant

920 lei per month

Employees in technical

600 to 920 lei per month

services

Head of shipbuilding

1,200 lei per month

construction sections

• \*

Assistant

900 lei per month

Workmen of shipbuilding construction sections

495 to 900 lei per month

- (2) The above salaries are for 8 hours work per day. Some skilled laborers and technicians are required to do overtime, and their pay is calculated according to output.
- (3) Wages and salaries are paid twice a month but the dates of payment vary according to factories. Thus the Viitorul yards pay on the 24th and the 9th of each month. The payment on the 24th is considered to be an advance; the accounts of all personnel are balanced on the 9th. The Progresul Metallurgy plant in Braila pays on the 26th and the 10th of each month.

## (4) Compulsory Monthly Deductions

The following monthly deductions were made in the case of a clerk who earned 495 lei:

Income tax (Inposit de stat) . . . . . . . . 37 lei

Trade Union subscription

(Sindicatul Metalochimie) . . . . . . . . . 5 lei

Trade Union newspaper subscription

(Viata Sindicatul) . . . . . . . . . . 4 lei

Red Cross subscription . . . . . . . . 0.50 leu

A.R.L.U.S.

(Russo-Rumanian Friendship League) . . . 0.50 leu

Total . . . 47 lei

## 4. Women at Work

In general the number of women employed continues to increase. In Bucharest they constitute about 30% of streetcar and bus personnel and 25% of the traffic police (percentages estimated). More women than men are employed in the textile and tobacco industries. Since 1950 they have also been observed to work as builders. In all cases women receive equal pay.

#### 5. Accommodation

Accommodation is scarce and overcrowding is general throughout the country. The hirings offices (Oficiul de Inchiriere) are still responsible, but

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- 7 -

lately the police authorities have been exercising their right to "veto" allocations. Evictions, apart from deportations, are still common; the time limit varies from 24 hours to 3 days. Usually no assistance is given.

## . 6. Transfer of Administrative Personnel to Manual Labor

- a. The tendency throughout the country is to reduce administrative establishments in order to obtain labor for more productive work. As a result, reduced administrative staffs are working under considerable strain. In order to meet requirements, individual tasks are increased and the staff may be forced to work overtime.
- b. Transferred personnel, refusing to obey orders, are either summarily dismissed or arrested by the authorities.